Message Text

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UNCLAS GENEVA 10013

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: UNDP, EAID

SUBJECT: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: AGENDA ITEM 19 -

UN TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES (6/27/78 - P.M.)

- 1. DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION (TCD). REPORTED THAT PROGRAMME DELIVERY FELL FROM DOLS 92 MILLION IN 1976 TO DOLS 83 MILLION LAST YEAR DUE PRIMARILY TO EARLIER RESTRICTIVE MEASURES IMPOSED ON UNDP PROJECT EXPENDITURES. HE SAID THIS YEAR THERE HAD ALREADY BEEN SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN UNDP BUDGET APPROVALS, AND MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN THE LEVEL OF PROGRAMME DELIVERY IS EXPECTED FOR 1978. DIRECTOR PROPOSED THAT, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN HIGHER LEVELS OF PROGRAMME DELIVERY, THERE BE AUTHORIZED A MARGIN OF OVER-PROGRAMMING COMBINED WITH DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY TO ACCELERATE PROGRAMME INPUTS WHEN ABSORPTIVE CAPACTIY EXISTS.
- 2. DIRECTOR REPORTED THAT IMPLICATIONS OF NEW DIMENSIONS AND TCDC RECEIVED SPECIAL EMPHASIS AND WERE MAJOR CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PROJECTS AND ADVISORY SERVICES FINANCED BY THE UNITED NATIONS REGULAR PROGRAMME. HE REPORTED UNCLASSIFIED

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FURTHER THAT TCD HAD GROWING PROGRAMME OF INTER- AND MILTI-DISCIPLINARY PROGRAMMING MISSIONS TO NEWLY-INDEPENDENT AND EMERGING COUNTRIES. HE EMPHASIZED TCD'S INVOLVEMENT IN A WIDE RANGE OF DROUGHT-RELATED ACTIVITIES IN SAHEL AREA, AND ITS PARTICIPATION ON MULTI-DISCIPLINARY BASIS IN JOINT INTER-AGENCY EFFORTS TO PROMOTE POVERTY-ORIENTED RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

- 3. DIRECTOR CONCLUDED BY DESCRIBING STEPS BEING UNDERTAKEN, AS PART OF RESTRUCTURING OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UN SYSTEM, TO BRING TOGETHER IN NEW DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT ALL ELEMENTS CONCERNED WITH TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION: OPERATIONS; SUBSTANTIVE ADVISERS CONCERNED WITH BACKSTOPPING TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROJECTS; RECRUITMENT OF EXPERTS; AND PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT AND AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROJECTS. DIRECTOR STATED THAT THIS CONSOLIDATION IN ONE DEPARTMENT OF ALL THE ELEMENTS SUPPORTIVE OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION, AS WELL AS DESIGNATION OF THE NEW DEPARTMENT AS SOLE EXECUTING AGENCY FOR THE UNITED NATIONS, WOULD ENABLE THE UNITED NATIONS TO CARRY OUT ITS TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES IN A MORE EFFECTIVE AND EXPEDITIOUS MANNER.
- 4. CANADIAN DELEGATION EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE UNITED NATIONS REGULAR PROGRAMME FOR TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION COULD GIVE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE TO HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES IN THE FORM OF FURTHER FELLOWSHIPS AND SEMINARS -- USSR DELEGATION NOTED WITH REGRET THE RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF RUSSIAN EXPERTS RECRUITED. THERE HAD RECENTLY BEEN A MARKED INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS AND SEMINARS PLACED IN USSR FOR WHICH DELEGATION EXPRESSED GREAT SATISFACTION, AND THIS WAS UNCLASSIFIED

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EVIDENCE THAT MORE COULD BE DONE WHEN THERE WAS THE WILL TO DO SO. DELEGATION ALSO SUGGESTED TRAINING IN USSR AND PROVISION OF USSR EXPERTS WAS METHOD OF USING NON-CONVERTIBLE CURRENCY CONTRIBUTED BY USSR.

5. GC TOOK NOTE OF THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION ACTIVITIES AND OF THE OBSERVATIONS MADE DURING THE DISCUSSION IN DRAFT DECISION ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS 6/27/78. VANDEN HEUVEL

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